



# NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Wednesday, June 19, 2008**

**08-77**

**KALILIKANE FOUND GUILTY BY FEDERAL JURY  
OF BANK ROBBERY AND FIREARMS CRIMES**

Anchorage, Alaska – United States Attorney Nelson P. Cohen announced that on June 18, 2008, after deliberating for approximately two hours, a jury of eight men and four women found Bernard Miguel Kalilikane, of Anchorage, Alaska, guilty of armed credit union robbery, armed bank robbery, two counts of using a semi-automatic pistol during and in relation to a crime of violence, and one count of felon in possession of a firearm or ammunition. As the jury found that the defendant used a firearm and ammunition during the commission of these offenses, the United States will seek forfeiture of those items.

Kalilikane, age 39, of 5411 Mockingbird, Anchorage, was tried before Chief United States District Court Judge John W. Sedwick.

According to Special Assistant United States Attorney Erin White, who prosecuted the case, the evidence presented at trial established that Kalilikane robbed the Alaska USA Federal Credit Union on December 17, 2007. The defendant escaped with \$4,350 after brandishing a Bersa .380 semi-automatic pistol. On December 27, 2007, the defendant robbed the Northrim Bank located at the Carr's Store on Huffman Boulevard. Using the same firearm, the defendant escaped with \$2,920. The defendant has prior felony convictions from the State of Hawaii for escape, burglary in the first degree, and promoting a dangerous drug. Co-defendant Cynthia Lee Taranto pled guilty to armed credit union robbery on April 24, 2008. Taranto drove Kalilikane to the Alaska USA Federal Credit Union and acted as the "get-away" driver. Taranto testified against Kalilikane at trial, and her sentencing is scheduled for July 11, 2008, at 9:00 a.m.

Judge Sedwick scheduled sentencing for Kalilikane on September 3, 2008, at 8:30 a.m. The law provides for a mandatory minimum sentence of 32 years in prison, a fine of \$250,000.00, or both. Under the Federal Sentencing Guidelines, the actual sentence imposed is based on the seriousness of the offenses and the criminal history, if any, of the defendant.

Kalilikane continues to remain in custody pending sentencing.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation conducted the investigation that led to the prosecution of Kalilikane.

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